

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the subject patent application.

Listing of Claims:

1-13 (Canceled).

14 (Currently amended). A neutral section insulator for use with an overhead railway conductor line, which neutral section insulator is disposed between the ends of said conductor line when in use, the neutral section insulator comprising an insulator body having a single, integral body to isolate the ends of said conductor line from each other; wherein the profile of the neutral section insulator is designed such that, when the neutral section insulator is in use, its neutral axis is aligned closely with the neutral axis of the conductors on its either side and the height of said insulator body is chosen so that the stiffness and the dynamic mass of the neutral section insulator closely match those of the conductors on its either side in both the vertical and horizontal planes A neutral section as claimed in claim 1, and wherein a semiconductor tape is attached to a spine of the neutral section insulator.

15-16 (Canceled).

17 (Currently amended). A neutral section insulator for use with an overhead railway conductor line, which neutral section insulator is disposed between the ends of said conductor line when in use, the neutral section insulator comprising an insulator body having a single, integral body to isolate the ends of said conductor line from each other; wherein the profile of the neutral section insulator is designed such that, when the neutral section insulator is in use, its neutral axis is aligned closely with the neutral axis of the conductors on its either side and the height of said insulator body is chosen so that the stiffness and the dynamic mass of the neutral section insulator closely match those of the conductors on its either side in both the vertical and horizontal planes, wherein electrical plates are attached to a spine of the neutral section insulator, and A neutral section as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plates are spaced at a distance of 100 mm or more.

(Substitute) Amendment after final dated February 10, 2009

Response to Office action mailed December 8, 2008

18 Currently amended). A neutral section insulator for use with an overhead railway conductor line, which neutral section insulator is disposed between the ends of said conductor line when in use, the neutral section insulator comprising an insulator body having a single, integral body to isolate the ends of said conductor line from each other; wherein the profile of the neutral section insulator is designed such that, when the neutral section insulator is in use, its neutral axis is aligned closely with the neutral axis of the conductors on its either side and the height of said insulator body is chosen so that the stiffness and the dynamic mass of the neutral section insulator closely match those of the conductors on its either side in both the vertical and horizontal planes, wherein electrical plates are attached to a spine of the neutral section insulator, and A neutral section as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plates have spherical surfaces.

19-22 (Canceled).

23 (New). A neutral section insulator as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said electrical plates is made of epoxy resin with chopped strand glass fiber reinforcement.

24 (New). A neutral section insulator as claimed in claim 18, wherein each of said electrical plates is made of epoxy resin with chopped strand glass fiber reinforcement.